

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 861

Introduced by Assembly Member Ruskin

February 26, 2009

An act to amend Sections 18986.86 and 18986.87 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to county integrated health and human services.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 861, as introduced, Ruskin. County integrated health and human services.

Existing law authorizes Humboldt, Mendocino, and Alameda Counties, and any additional county or counties, as determined by the Secretary of the California Health and Human Services Agency, with the assistance and participation of the appropriate state departments, within the existing resources of those departments, to implement a pilot program, upon approval of the county board of supervisors, for the funding and delivery of services and benefits through an integrated and comprehensive county health and human services system.

This bill would, instead, authorize each county, with the assistance and participation of the appropriate state departments, within the existing resources of those departments, to implement a program, upon approval of the county board of supervisors, for the funding and delivery of services and benefits through an integrated and comprehensive county health and human services system.

Existing law authorizes the integrated system to include specified health and human services.

This bill would authorize the integrated system to include, but not be limited to, those existing specified services and additional services and programs.

Existing law requires a participating county, in consultation with the appropriate state departments, as designated by the Secretary of the California Health and Human Services Agency, to prepare an interim evaluation not later than 6 months following the 3rd year of the implementation of the program and a final evaluation not later than July 1, 2008, and submit them to the Governor or the Governor's designee and the appropriate policy committees of the Legislature.

This bill would require a participating county to evaluate its program with the participation of the appropriate state departments, prepare an evaluation, submit it to the Governor or the Governor's designee and the appropriate policy committees of the Legislature not later than 6 months following the 3rd year of the implementation of the program, and seek private funding to provide for the evaluation. The bill would only require the evaluation to be conducted if nonstate resources are made available for this purpose.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 18986.86 of the Welfare and Institutions
- 2 Code is amended to read:
- 3 18986.86. (a) ~~Humboldt County, Mendocino County, Alameda~~
- 4 ~~County, and any additional county or counties, as determined by~~
- 5 ~~the Secretary of California Health and Human Services, A county,~~
- 6 with the assistance and participation of the appropriate state
- 7 departments, within the existing resources of those departments,
- 8 may implement a program, upon approval of the county board of
- 9 supervisors for the funding and delivery of services and benefits
- 10 through an integrated and comprehensive county health and human
- 11 services system.
- 12 (b) In providing services through an integrated system to
- 13 families and individuals, the program may, among other things,
- 14 do all of the following:
- 15 (1) Implement and evaluate a system of universal intake for
- 16 those seeking services.

1 (2) Implement and evaluate a system whereby a family or
2 individual eligible for more than one service may be provided
3 those services through an integrated, coordinated service plan.

4 (3) Implement and evaluate a system of administration that
5 integrates and coordinates the management and support of client
6 services.

7 (4) Implement and evaluate a system of reporting and
8 accountability that provides for the combined provision of services
9 as provided for in paragraph (2), without the loss of state or federal
10 funds provided under current law.

11 (5) In consultation with the appropriate state departments, as
12 designated by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, ~~any a~~
13 participating county may develop specific goals in addition to
14 those specified in paragraphs (1) to (4), inclusive, to achieve an
15 integrated and comprehensive county health and human services
16 system.

17 (c) The integrated system may include ~~any or all of~~, *but need*
18 *not be limited to*, the following:

- 19 (1) Adoption services.
- 20 (2) Child abuse prevention services.
- 21 (3) Child welfare services.
- 22 (4) Delinquency prevention services.
- 23 (5) Drug and alcohol services.
- 24 (6) Mental health services.
- 25 (7) Eligibility determination.
- 26 (8) Employment and training services.
- 27 (9) Foster care services.
- 28 (10) Health services.
- 29 (11) Public health services.
- 30 (12) Housing services.
- 31 (13) Medically indigent program services.
- 32 (14) *California Children's Services Program.*
- 33 (15) *Child Health and Disability Prevention Program.*
- 34 (16) *Health care services for children in foster care.*
- 35 (17) *Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program.*
- 36 (18) *Immunization outreach and education.*
- 37 (19) *Maternal and child health services.*
- 38 (20) *Adolescent Family Life Program.*
- 39 (21) *Tuberculosis control services.*

1 (22) *Bioterrorism preparedness and emergency response*
2 *services.*

3 (23) *HIV/AIDS counseling and testing.*

4 (24) *HIV/AIDS education and prevention.*

5 (25) *HIV/AIDS surveillance.*

6 (26) *Oral health services.*

7 (27) *Preventative health care services for the aging.*

8 (28) *Sexually transmitted disease control.*

9 (29) *Tobacco control program services.*

10 (30) *Women, Infants, and Children Supplemental Nutrition*
11 *Program.*

12 (d) (1) Part 2.6 (commencing with Section 56) of Division 1
13 of the Civil Code shall apply to the programs or services providing
14 integrated services.

15 (2) Before a program obtains an individual's medical
16 information, including mental health and drug treatment records,
17 his or her informed authorization shall be obtained, or the informed
18 authorization of his or her custodial parent, or his or her guardian
19 shall be obtained if the individual is a minor, unless the minor is
20 authorized to give consent.

21 (3) Medical information shall not be disclosed to any individual
22 who is not authorized to have that information pursuant to the
23 authorization provided in paragraph (2).

24 (4) Medical information shall not be disclosed for any purpose
25 that is not authorized by the authorization in paragraph (2).

26 (5) The sharing of information permitted under paragraphs (2),
27 (3), and (4) shall be governed by memoranda of understanding
28 among the agencies represented on the team. These memoranda
29 shall specify the types of information that may be shared without
30 a signed release form, and the process to be used to ensure that
31 current confidentiality requirements, as described in subdivision
32 (d), are met.

33 (6) ~~Any~~ A client shall have access to his or her medical
34 information and shall have the right to correct any inaccurate
35 information contained in the medical information.

36 (e) Programs or services shall be included in the program only
37 to the extent that federal funding to either the state or the county
38 will not be reduced as a result of the inclusion of the services in
39 the project. This program shall not generate any increased
40 expenditures from the General Fund.

1 (f) Each participating county and the appropriate state
2 departments shall jointly seek federal approval of the program, as
3 may be needed to ensure its funding and allow for the integrated
4 provision of services.

5 (g) This chapter shall not authorize ~~each~~ a participating county
6 to discontinue meeting its obligations under current law to provide
7 services or to reduce its accountability for the provision of these
8 services.

9 (h) This chapter shall not authorize a participating county to
10 reduce the county's eligibility under current law for state funding
11 for the services included in the program.

12 (i) A participating county shall utilize any and all state general
13 and county funds that it is legally allocated or entitled to receive.
14 Through the creation of integrated health and social services
15 structures, the county shall maximize federal matching funds.

16 (j) The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall designate
17 a lead department to coordinate the state's participation in the
18 county's program.

19 (k) The appropriate state departments, ~~as designated by the~~
20 ~~Secretary of Health and Human Services~~, that are assisting,
21 participating, and cooperating in the implementation of the program
22 authorized by this chapter shall have the authority to waive
23 regulations regarding the method of providing services and the
24 method of reporting and accountability, as may be required to meet
25 the goals set forth in subdivision (b). However, the departments
26 shall not waive regulations pertaining to privacy and confidentiality
27 of records, civil service merit systems, or collective bargaining.
28 The departments shall not waive regulations if the waiver results
29 in a diminished amount or level of services or benefits to eligible
30 recipients as compared to the benefits and services that would have
31 been provided to recipients absent the waiver.

32 SEC. 2. Section 18986.87 of the Welfare and Institutions Code
33 is amended to read:

34 18986.87. (a) A participating county shall, in consultation
35 with the appropriate state departments, ~~as designated by the~~
36 ~~Secretary of Health and Human Services~~, develop outcomes and
37 performance measures specific to the project prior to the
38 implementation of the pilot program. ~~Implementation of a pilot~~
39 ~~program pursuant to this chapter shall occur no later than January~~
40 ~~1, 2009.~~

- 1 (b) A participating county shall evaluate its program with the
2 participation of the appropriate state departments, ~~as designated~~
3 ~~by the Secretary of Health and Human Services~~, and prepare
4 ~~interim and final evaluations~~ *an evaluation* and submit ~~them~~ *it* to
5 the Governor or the Governor's designee and the appropriate policy
6 committees of the Legislature. The ~~interim report~~ *evaluation* shall
7 be submitted not later than six months following the third year of
8 the implementation of the program. ~~The final report shall be~~
9 ~~submitted not later than July 1, 2008.~~
- 10 (c) ~~Each participating county shall provide for the evaluation~~
11 ~~of the program.~~ *A participating county, with the assistance of the*
12 *appropriate state departments, shall seek private funding to provide*
13 *for the program evaluation. The evaluation required by this section*
14 *shall be conducted only if nonstate resources are made available*
15 *for this purpose.*